



# Education and Best Practices in Medication Prescribing: The Role of Pharmacy Education in Stemming the Tide of Prescription Drug Addiction

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# Medication-taking Behavior

- Recognizing the Signs of Diversion
  - Prescription was lost.
  - Medication fell into the sink.
  - Friday evening emergency fill.
  - Cash only.

# Mechanisms to Assist Pharmacists

- Prescription Monitoring Programs
  - How they work
  - Prevalence
  - Barriers

# Mechanisms to Assist Pharmacists

- Know your prescribers
  - Pay attention to standard scripts.
  - Question those out of the ordinary.

# Mechanisms to Assist Pharmacists

- Know your patients
  - Cancer patients.
  - Chronic pain patients.
  - Take time to talk with those you don't know.

# Pharmacy Robberies

- Recent Statistics
- Programs for students.
  - Bring in law enforcement.
  - Example advice:
    - Obey commands/notes.
    - Get them out quickly.
    - Lock door behind.
    - Witnesses – separate, take notes.
    - Low aisles, good lighting, cameras, signage.

# Diversion within the Profession

- Pharmacists and other healthcare providers are at high risk.
- Steady supply
- Recordkeeping
- Trusted

# Diversion Prevention Methods

- Guest Speakers
- Case Studies
- Pathophysiology of Addiction
- Legal Aspects